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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 24, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 18 totaled an estimated 17.9 billion ton-miles, 6.0 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first three weeks of 1986 was an estimated 48.0 billion ton-miles, up 4.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 18 totaled 386,028, up 6.0 percent from last year, and 3.6 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 8.5 percent in the East, 2.4 percent in the South and 6.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings were up 13,716 cars (13.2 percent) and metallic ores showed a gain of 1,029 cars (10.9 percent). Twenty of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 11 totaled 89,094 trailers and/or containers, 8.1 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first two weeks of the year was 155,146 trailers and/or containers, up 13.2 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/18/86:

	Loadings in Week ended January 18, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,902	I	932	3.5	I	958	3.6
Other farm products	4,944	D	135	2.7	I	363	7.9
Metallic ores	10,491	I	1,029	10.9	I	170	1.6
Coal	117,453	I	13,716	13.2	I	2,457	2.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,506	I	801	9.2	I	191	2.1
Nonmetallic minerals	8,612	D	499	5.5	I	509	6.3
Grain mill products	11,037	I	165	1.5	I	512	4.9
Food and kindred products	11,193	I	297	2.7	I	456	4.2
Primary forest products	11,859	D	1,295	9.8	I	80	0.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,356	I	510	7.4	I	744	11.3
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,760	D	974	6.6	I	566	4.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,450	D	440	1.8	I	410	1.7
Petroleum products	5,331	I	485	10.0	I	126	2.4
Stone, clay and glass products	9,509	I	217	2.3	I	217	2.3
Coke	4,462	D	584	11.6	D	231	4.9
Metals and products	8,594	I	901	11.7	I	154	1.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,929	I	195	0.9	I	1,158	5.3
Waste and scrap materials	8,877	D	34	0.4	I	483	5.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,698	D	701	11.0	I	555	10.8
All other carloads	61,919	I	7,121	13.0	I	3,590	6.2
LCL traffic	146	I	14	10.6	I	29	24.8
Total Cars Loaded	386,028	I	21,721	6.0	I	13,497	3.6
Corresponding week of 1985	364,307						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (3 weeks)	1,030,172	997,912	I 3.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 11	30.1	29.2	I 3.2
Week ended January 18	17.9	16.9	I 6.0
3 weeks cumulative	48.0	46.0	I 4.2

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